

25X1A9a

3 July 1962

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Subject: Attached Paper on MIND

The attached paper was handed to me by [redacted] when he thought you were not going to be here. As you will see, it was referred by [redacted] to DD/S, thence to the D/Pers. What [redacted] would like from us (by Thursday, 5 July) is an expression of whether we think this has anything to offer and, if so, how the DD/R would fit into it. I dignify the remarks that follow by putting them on paper in the belief that you might wish to use some of this in the response to [redacted]. If not, all we waste is Barbara's time.

[redacted] said he thought at first that this idea was crack-brained, but perhaps there was the germ of an idea here. I agree that the idea is an interesting one, but it is in my view so monstrously impractical as to discourage further consideration. The plan as outlined is a sort of modern version of the Doms Day Book, and the first aspect of its impracticality is that nobody, but nobody, could organize this but the Government. The only way I could see that even the Government could collect this information would be by appending it to some mandatory-response form, such as the income tax or the census. This is not likely.

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I gather that [redacted] feels under some pressure to prepare a meaningful response on this. I don't think it deserves that much attention, because unless I am mistaken, it is a mechanically typed letter - which means right off the bat that the writer does not expect a high percentage of responses. Without much feeling of remorse, I could respond to [redacted] in the vein that we think he has an interesting idea here, and would wish to hear further about it when his compilation has made some progress. Meanwhile, of course, it is not the sort of thing to which the Agency normally contributes funds, etc. etc.

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